

his characteristics expressed itself in a fine sense of orderliness, industry and thrift. After a period of residence in southern Texas (1915-1916) he returned to San Jose, California, where he died May 6, 1918.

### THE ANNUAL DINNER FOR 1928

About ninety members of the Society and their guests gathered at the Pig'n Whistle Restaurant in Berkeley on Saturday evening, February 18, to celebrate the annual dinner under the lead of the Toastmaster, Mr. Fred W. Koch, head of the Science Department of the Galileo High School, San Francisco. A brief discussion of various wheat cultures was made by Professor W. W. Mackie. A traveler's impressions of the flora of Palestine were given in a talk illustrated with lantern slides by Dr. W. F. Bade, Director of the Palestine Institute, and Dr. L. R. Abrams of Stanford University spoke in memory of Mr. S. B. Parish who died June 5, 1928. This memorial was brief but happily and aptly worded. In connection with it Dr. Abrams read two letters which he had received from Mr. Parish in recent years. Both letters, he said, portray well the character of the man and his keen interest in botany, even in his declining years. The first is only a short note but it shows how clear and retentive his mind remained, for it was written in his eighty-ninth year, a few days following the annual dinner of the Society two years ago. This letter refers to a desert plant collected by Mr. Parish over forty-five years before. The second letter relates to the great Berkeley fire of September, 1923, which almost without warning swept twenty-five city blocks and included the Parish home at 1668 Scenic Avenue in that terrifying disaster.

Berkeley, February 14, 1927.

Perhaps it may be worth while to put in writing what I said to you the other evening about the specimen of *Calliandra eriophylla* from Mesquite Cañon. Mesquite Station was in early days the name of a siding on the Southern Pacific some distance east of Mecca, and the road ran there, as I remember, some two or three miles from the bases of the hills to the south part, I suppose, of the so-called Chuccawala Range. Mesquite Cañon was the nearest dry wash running into these hills, and C. C. Pringle and I walked over to it and spent the night on the sand and in the morning ascended the wash some distance, coming back to the railway in the evening. The exact spot where we got the *Calliandra* I do not recall. I think this is the only California collection of this species that has been made. There are many good things, I think, yet to be discovered in that region.

S. B. Parish.

Apt. 16, The Merrill, Berkeley,  
October 1, 1923.

I should have written to you before this, but there has been much to do, and so much confusion, since the fire. Today I have your kind note and will no longer delay.

The fire swept down with the greatest rapidity before the strong northern gale, and we had about 20 minutes to prepare. The University boys carried almost everything out of the house and piled it on an adjoining vacant lot, where it was burned up. We escaped with what we had on, and what we had hastily thrust into two grips. We got this apartment the same evening, and were thankful to get a roof over our heads.

While the fire took most of the things carried out of the house, some things must have been taken away, for a few trifles have since been brought to us. The real reason I delayed writing to you was that I had a faint hope that some one might have picked up the manuscript of my Mojave paper and saved it for me. But the chance is infinitesimal. I had put it and some notebooks in a small grip, and I blame myself that in the confusion it was not cared for.

I thank you most sincerely for the interest you so kindly took in it and Stanford University for its willingness to publish it. It was practically finished, needing only the copying of a few pages—and I was not entirely dissatisfied with it after this final revision. The introduction was the expansion of a paper I read to the Sinapsis Club at the Citrus Experiment Station, and they had a copy of it made by their stenographer. The Systematic Catalogue was based on one I made for the Desert Laboratory. Possibly from these papers I may try to reconstruct the thing. But all my notebooks are gone, and the undertaking seems formidable. Any thought of the kind must wait until we are once more settled; then I will know if I have courage to try.

We fortunately had considerable insurance, so that we can rebuild, or buy a new house, but it will have to be a smaller and poorer one than we had, at the present exorbitant prices of labor and material. My wife faces the loss with the greatest bravery, and I try to imitate her, and we are both well.

S. B. Parish.

The main address of the evening was made by the guest of honor, Dr. Carl O. Sauer, Professor of Geography in the University of California, who spoke on the relation of the plant cover of a country to its geographic problems.—W. L. JEPSON.

#### THE ANNUAL DINNER FOR 1929

The annual dinner of the Society for 1929 was held in Berkeley on February 23. The dinner itself was preceded by an all-day session held in Wheeler Hall, at which professional papers were read. At